

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Rudolf Neumann

Examiner:

Not yet assigned

Application No.:

10/623,201

Confirmation No.:

2842

Filed:

July 18, 2003

Group Art Unit:

3682

For:

HYDRO FILL CONTROLLING SHIELD AND SLEEVE FOR A

HYDRODYNAMIC BEARING

Mail Stop DD Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 in order to comply with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. The Statement is being submitted:

- [] within three months of the application filing date;
- [X] more than three months from the application filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

Copies of the referenced documents, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A, are not enclosed herewith as they are all U.S. references. A duplicate copy of Form PTO/SB/08A is enclosed herewith.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, submission of this statement requires no fee. However, if for any reason a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to

Deposit Account No. 50-0675, Order No. <u>057517.0009</u>. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed herewith.

It is respectfully requested that these references be fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application and printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicant requests that a copy of Form PTO/SB/08A, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next communication.

An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP Attorneys for Applicant 919 Third Avenue New York, NY 10017 (212)756-2000

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Dated: July 22, 2004

New York, New York

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Date of Deposit: July 22, 2004

I hereby certify under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 that this correspondence and enumerated documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name:

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Sarah Schule
Schulte Roth & Zabel, LLP

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/623,201		
Filing Date	July 18, 2003		
First Named Inventor	Rudolf Neumann		
Art Unit	3682		
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned		
Attorney Docket Number	057517-0009		

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (f known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		^{US-} 6,375,357	04-23-02	Miura et al.	
		^{US-} 6,322,252	11-27-01	Grantz et al.	
		^{US-} 5,957,589	09-28-99	Lee et al.	
		^{US-} 5,876,124	03-02-99	Zang et al.	
		^{US-} 5,524,986	06-11-96	Leuthold et al.	
		^{US-} 2002/0053138	05-09-02	Kloeppel et al.	
		US-			30 1 30
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials* Cite No.1 Foreign Patent Document Country Code3 Number 4 Kind Code5 (if known)		Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
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Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.